IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amendments to the claims; the specific changes to the claims are indicated in the enclosed Appendix which forms part of this response:

1.(Twice Amended) Aqueous disinfecting and cleaning composition in a concentrated form which exhibits reduced irritancy which comprises,

a disinfecting effective amount of a quaternary ammonium compound having germicidal properties;

a mitigating effective amount of at least one nonionic surfactant selected from alkylpolyglycoside compounds;

0.1 – 8%wt of at least one further nonionic surfactant;

0 - 3%wt. of a polymeric cationic surfactant based on a polyquaternary ammonium salt;

0 - 3%wt. of a builder;

0 - 5%wt. of one or more conventional additives selected from coloring agents, fragrances and fragrance solubilizers, viscosity modifying agents such as thickeners, pH adjusting agents and pH buffers including organic and inorganic salts; and,

water to form 100%wt. of the aqueous disinfecting and cleaning composition in concentrated form.

2. An aqueous disinfecting and cleaning composition according to claim 1 wherein the quaternary ammonium compound having germicidal properties is present in an amount of from about 0.001 - 5% wt.

4. (Amended) An aqueous disinfecting and cleaning composition according to claim 1 wherein the at least one further nonionic surfactant is an alkoxylated primary alcohol.

5.(Amended) An aqueous disinfecting and cleaning composition according to claim 1 wherein the at least one further nonionic surfactant is a polymeric alkylene oxide block copolymer.

6. An aqueous composition which comprises 1 part of the aqueous disinfecting and cleaning concentrate composition according to claim 1 per 10 to 64 parts water.

7.(Amended) Aqueous disinfecting and cleaning composition in a concentrated form which exhibits reduced irritancy according to claim 1 which comprises:
a disinfecting effective amount of a quaternary ammonium compound having germicidal properties;
a mitigating effective amount of a binary surfactant system which comprises both (a) at least one nonionic surfactant selected from alkylpolyglycoside compounds, with (b) at least one further nonionic surfactant compound which is based on a polymeric alkylene oxide block copolymer;
0.1 - 10%wt. of at least one further nonionic surfactant;
0 - 3%wt. of a polymeric cationic surfactant based on a polyquaternary ammonium salt;
0 - 3%wt. of a builder;
0 - 5%wt. of one or more conventional additives selected from coloring agents, fragrances and fragrance solubilizers, viscosity modifying agents such as thickeners, pH adjusting agents and pH buffers including organic and inorganic salts; and,
water to form 100%wt.

8. An aqueous disinfecting and cleaning composition according to claim 7 wherein the quaternary ammonium compound having germicidal properties is present in an amount of from about 0.001 - 5% wt.

9. An aqueous disinfecting and cleaning composition according to claim 7 wherein the binary surfactant system is present in an amount of from 0.1 – 10%wt.

11.(Amended) An aqueous disinfecting and cleaning composition according to claim 7 wherein the at least one further nonionic surfactant is an alkoxylated primary alcohol.

12. An aqueous composition which comprises 1 part of the aqueous disinfecting and cleaning concentrate composition according to claim 7 per 10 to 64 parts water.

13.(Amended) A process for cleaning and/or disinfecting of hard surfaces which comprises the step of:

applying a cleaning and/or disinfecting effective amount of a composition according to claim 1 to the surface.

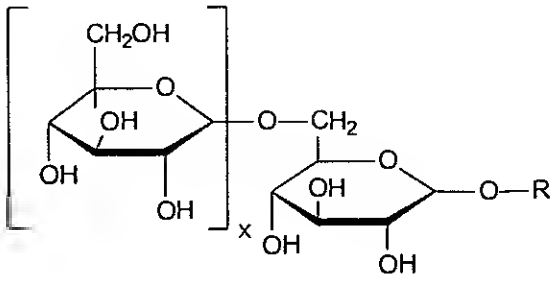
14. A process for cleaning and/or disinfecting of hard surfaces which comprises the step of:

applying a cleaning and/or disinfecting effective amount of a composition according to claim 7 to the surface.

15. Aqueous disinfecting and cleaning composition in a concentrated form which exhibits reduced irritancy which comprises:

a disinfecting effective amount of a quaternary ammonium compound having germicidal properties;

a mitigating effective amount of a binary surfactant system which comprises both (a) a first nonionic surfactant based on an alkylpolyglycoside compound according to the structure:



wherein R is an alkyl group, preferably a linear alkyl chain, which comprises C_8 to C_{16} alkyl groups;

x is an integer value of from 0 – 3;

with (b) at least a second nonionic surfactant compound which is based on a polymeric alkylene oxide block copolymer;

0.1 - 10%wt. of at least one third nonionic surfactant;

0 - 3%wt. of a polymeric cationic surfactant based on a polyquaternary ammonium salt;

0 - 3%wt. of a builder;

0 - 5%wt. of one or more conventional additives selected from coloring agents, fragrances and fragrance solubilizers, viscosity modifying agents such as thickeners, pH adjusting agents and pH buffers including organic and inorganic salts; and,

the balance to 100% of water.

Please add the following new claims to the application:

16.(New) An aqueous disinfecting and cleaning composition in a concentrated form which exhibits reduced irritancy according to claim 1 which consists essentially of:

a disinfecting effective amount of a quaternary ammonium compound having germicidal properties;

a mitigating effective amount of at least one nonionic surfactant selected from alkylpolyglycoside compounds;

0.1 – 8%wt of at least one further nonionic surfactant;

0 - 3%wt. of a polymeric cationic surfactant based on a polyquaternary ammonium salt;

0 - 3%wt. of a builder;

0 - 5%wt. of one or more conventional additives selected from coloring agents, fragrances and fragrance solubilizers, viscosity modifying agents such as

thickeners, pH adjusting agents and pH buffers including organic and inorganic salts; and,

water to form 100%wt. of the aqueous disinfecting and cleaning composition in concentrated form.

17. (New) An aqueous disinfecting and cleaning composition in a concentrated form which exhibits reduced irritancy according to claim 1 which consists essentially of:

a disinfecting effective amount of a quaternary ammonium compound having germicidal properties;

a mitigating effective amount of a binary surfactant system which comprises both (a) at least one nonionic surfactant selected from alkylpolyglycoside compounds, with (b) at least one further nonionic surfactant compound which is based on a polymeric alkylene oxide block copolymer;

0.1 – 8%wt of at least one further nonionic surfactant;

0 - 3%wt. of a polymeric cationic surfactant based on a polyquaternary ammonium salt;

0 - 3%wt. of a builder;

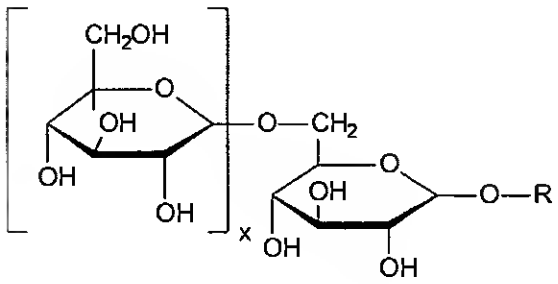
0 - 5%wt. of one or more conventional additives selected from coloring agents, fragrances and fragrance solubilizers, viscosity modifying agents such as thickeners, pH adjusting agents and pH buffers including organic and inorganic salts; and,

water to form 100%wt. of the aqueous disinfecting and cleaning composition in concentrated form.

18. (New) Aqueous disinfecting and cleaning composition in a concentrated form which exhibits reduced irritancy which consists essentially of:

a disinfecting effective amount of a quaternary ammonium compound having germicidal properties;

a mitigating effective amount of a binary surfactant system which comprises both (a) a first nonionic surfactant based on an alkylpolyglycoside compound according to the structure:



wherein R is an alkyl group, preferably a linear alkyl chain, which comprises C_8 to C_{16} alkyl groups;

x is an integer value of from 0 – 3;

with (b) at least a second nonionic surfactant compound which is based on a polymeric alkylene oxide block copolymer;

0.1 - 10%wt. of at least one third nonionic surfactant;

0 - 3%wt. of a polymeric cationic surfactant based on a polyquaternary ammonium salt;

0 - 3%wt. of a builder;

0 - 5%wt. of one or more conventional additives selected from coloring agents, fragrances and fragrance solubilizers, viscosity modifying agents such as thickeners, pH adjusting agents and pH buffers including organic and inorganic salts; and,

the balance to 100% of water.